

Creating a Relate

Often the data we need to access is not found in a layers own attribute table.

For example the parcel layer we will use in this example does not have the owners name in the attribute table but the dbf table pcparc00 created from the AS400 does.

If you are lucky your layer's attribute table has data values that are identical to data in another layer or table, for our example both tables have parcel numbers.

This will allow an association or relationship to be created between the 2 tables.

If this relationship exists between tables you will be able to do a Join or Relate to access that external data.

In this video we will look at Relates: these will be instances when the individual values in the 2 tables have either a one-to-many or many-to-many relationship.

In this example we will create a one-to-many relationship between the parcels using the parcel number.

The parcel layer has each parcel number in the table only once.

The pcparc00 table has repeating parcel numbers because Joe Smith can own more than one parcel.

Before we make the relate let's add the external table to our map project.

This has to be done if you want to query the external table.

Click on the source tab at the bottom of the TOC.

Now right-click the path for the layer and from the drop down menu and choose Add Table.

The dialog shows all the tables that are found in the folder where the layer is located.

From the list choose the table parcpc00 and then click add.

Select the Index tab at the bottom of the TOC.

Making the connection between the tables is done by right-clicking the target layer, selecting Joins and Relates and then Relate

A dialog will appear for building the relationship in this dialog you will choose the tables to relate and the fields with matching values.

The first choice is to identify the field within your layer.

In this example choose Parcel_No from the drop down.

The 2nd field is already populated with the correct table.

For the 3rd choice we need to choose the field in the pcparc00 table that contains parcel numbers.

In this case choose PM_PAR_14.

The 4th step is naming the Relate. It will have a default name of Relate1 or Relate2 and so on.

Click OK and the Relate is created.

This concludes Creating a Relate.

Now watch Query a Related Table to learn one way to access the data in the external table and display the associated spatial data in your map project.